



## Banking on a Brand New Budget

The new state fiscal year begins on October 1, and at this time Michigan is still without a budget. This has raised questions concerning the possibility of a government shutdown and/or layoffs if no agreement is reached before then.

It is only prudent for state government to know what options are available in regard to a government shutdown, but the primary focus -- 10 days before the start of the fiscal year -- is on getting a comprehensive solution to the budget.

Last Friday the state personnel director asked the Civil Service Commission to hold a special meeting on September 28 to consider a proposed amendment that will allow for the temporary layoff of state employees. This proposed rule gives state government options related to temporary layoffs in the event a comprehensive solution is not reached on the budget. No decisions have been made on whether layoffs will occur.

We will provide additional information in the **F.Y.I.** as it becomes available.

## MDOC Vision and Values: A Fresh Look

An updated version of the Michigan Department of Corrections Policy Directive 01.01.100 will soon be on the books. Once known as our "Statement of Purpose," it is now entitled "Vision and Values."

The new policy directive is the fruit of the dedication and efforts of the department's Vision and Values Committee.

The committee was charged with rewriting the Department's mission statement and guiding principles, as well as developing an action plan to ensure the values of Integrity, Inclusion, Excellence and Teamwork as rolled out by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm are an integral part of the Department's future.

The hope is that the vision and values will permeate every area of the operation, creating a positive

culture and also increasing workplace efficiency in the process.

"Items in the new document are shorter, more memorable and cut to the heart of what we're about," said Steve DeBor, administrator for the Planning and Community Development Administration and one of the Vision and Values Committee co-chairs.

"It also fits in with MPRI (the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative) philosophy of equipping offenders with the tools they need for a smooth transition back into society. Our goal is increased offender success," DeBor said.

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## JMF Closure Update

Plans to close the Southern Michigan Correctional Facility (JMF) continue to move forward. There are several recent developments to tell you about:

The JMF prisoner population is down about 50 prisoners to about 628. Acting Warden John Ocwieja mentioned that 7 of the 8 JMF teachers (3 academic and 4 vocational) have transferred to other locations. One academic teacher has agreed to stay at JMF to keep the school running until JMF closes.

The MSI optical factory that operated at JMF will be moved to Adrian; that process begins today. Two non-custody supervisors and one of the vocational teachers will go with the optical factory. The factory was down to about 6 prisoner assignments at JMF, but there are prospects of new business that could lead to as many as 10 prisoner assignments to the

optical factory in the months following its move to Adrian.

Under the temperature plan that was ordered and subsequently approved by the District Court, we installed and operated a "Cool Dome" at Egeler Reception and Guidance Center (RGC) from July 15 through September 15 of this year. It was used as a place of refuge for medically qualified prisoners. Since the cooling season is over, RGC is considering alternative uses for the dome for the next 7 months or so (including use for storage or as a gym). JMF's temporary cooling equipment can be returned to the vendor, which will likely happen after September 30.

We anticipate that JMF will be completely closed before the warm weather returns next year.

## Vision, *continued from page 1*

"Historically, we have believed that we protect the public by recommending appropriate sentences to the court, keeping sentenced felons in prison, preventing escapes, keeping staff and prisoners in our facilities safe, and by monitoring offenders' behavior in the community to discover violations," said Darlene Schimmel, administrator of the Office of Parole and Probation Services.

"We now recognize that in order to protect the public we must invest in offender success; success that lasts a lifetime. We are retaining our mission to protect the public but enhancing our means to get there," Schimmel continued. "We know that by assessing offender risk and needs and targeting interventions and programming, we can assist some offenders in becoming productive, law abiding citizens. By reducing crime and recidivism, we enhance public safety."

The policy has been completely revised. For example, this is the old policy statement:

"The Department's mission, values and guiding principles define the way staff will carry out their jobs

and is the basis for establishing the Department's policy, planning and budgetary priorities."

Now, compare it with the new one:

"Our vision and values define the way we perform our jobs and demonstrate our commitment to 'expecting excellence every day' in everything we do."

The complete document (as well as the rest of the departmental policies) is available on DAS, our department Document Access System.

Department Director Patricia L. Caruso approved the formation of the Vision and Values Committee in 2004. Along with DeBor and Schimmel, one other employee was chosen to co-chair the committee: Ray Wolfe, regional prison administrator for Correctional Facilities Administration Region II. Committee members are a cross-section representation of the department, and include employees who were selected by their colleagues as people who exhibit the values in their day-to-day work.

# State Employees Charitable Campaign:

## *“You Can Make A Difference”*

Excitement is in the air because of the 2007 State Employees Charitable Campaign (SECC), which continues through October 19th.

### Charities Abound

Did you know there are numerous charities (global, local, large and small) represented within SECC that employees may give to? In addition to those supported by the United Way, there are others such as America's Charities, Black United Fund of MI, Community Health Charities of Michigan, Community Shares of Michigan, Earth Share of Michigan, Global Impact, Independent Charities of America and Neighbor to Nation. These are only a few of the many agencies you can choose from.

### Creative Giving



Are you stumped with trying to think of ways to drum up support for the SECC campaign in your area? The “Penny Challenge” has been a success in Central Office, and we’re doing it again this year. Here’s how it works:

**Object of the Game:** The object is for your team to get as many points as possible to win the “challenge,” which will run the entire length of the SECC campaign. At Central Office teams are divided by floors, but do what’s best where you work!

**How to Play:** We have one collection canister for each team, and it is located on their floor. The team that collects the most points wins. Ideally this would be the team that collects the most pennies, but not so fast! That’s not necessarily so, as you’ll see when you read about how the points are tallied.

**Scoring:** This is where the challenge comes in. One point is earned for every penny in a team’s canister. However, if there are any other coins or paper currency in the canister, their total point value must be subtracted from the total number of points earned! The competition becomes a “challenge” when anyone adds silver coins or paper currency to another team’s canister.

For example: If there are 200 pennies in a canister, that equals 200 points. If a crafty co-worker from another team has dropped in a dollar bill, a dime and a quarter, the point value of that money (\$1.35 or 135 points) must be subtracted from the penny total. In this case,  $200 - 135 = 65$ , leaving the team with only 65 points. At Central Office the jars will be totaled after 4 p.m. each Friday and the results posted in the lobby the following Monday so teams can always know how they are doing.

At the conclusion, the floor with the most points will take possession of a trophy, receive a week of casual days and have bragging rights for the year. Find your own unique ways to celebrate victory!

If you have any questions about the campaign, please contact your SECC volunteer. If they are not available please feel free to contact Rosanne Leland, the SECC Department Coordinator, at 517-373-7630.





## Key Facts About Influenza and the Influenza Vaccine

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccination each year.

Every year in the United States an average of 5% to 20% of the population gets the flu. More than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications, and 36,000 people die from the illness.

Symptoms of flu include fever (usually high), headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose and muscle aches. Stomach symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea also can occur but are more common in children than adults. Complications of flu can include bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, dehydration, and worsening of chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, asthma, or diabetes.

Flu viruses spread mainly from person to person through coughing or sneezing of people with influenza. Sometimes people may become infected by touching something with flu viruses on it and then touching their mouth or nose. Most healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning 1 day before symptoms develop and up to 5 days after becoming sick. That means that you may be able to pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick.

The single best way to prevent the flu is to get a flu vaccination each year. The flu shot is approved for use in people 6 months of age and older, including healthy people and people with chronic medical conditions. It is an inactivated vaccine (containing killed virus) that is given with a needle, usually in the arm. It contains three influenza viruses. The three vaccine strains – one A (H3N2) virus, one A (H1N1) virus, and one B virus – are representative of the

influenza vaccine strains recommended for that year. Viruses for the flu shot are grown in eggs. **If you are severely allergic to eggs, do not get a flu shot before seeing a physician.**

The viruses in the flu shot are inactivated, so you cannot get the flu from a flu shot. The risk of a flu shot causing serious harm or death is extremely small. Side effects that could occur include soreness, redness, or swelling where the shot was given, low grade fever and aches. If these occur, they begin soon after the shot and usually last one to two days. Almost all people who get influenza vaccine have no serious problems from it.

A vaccine, like any medicine, may rarely cause serious problems such as a serious allergic reaction. Signs of serious allergic reaction can include breathing problems, hoarseness or wheezing, hives, paleness, weakness, a fast heartbeat, or dizziness. If they do occur, it is within a few minutes to a few hours after the shot. These reactions are more likely to occur among persons with a severe allergy to eggs.

Normally, about one person per 100,000 people per year will develop Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS), an illness characterized by fever, nerve damage, and muscle weakness. In 1976, vaccination with the swine flu vaccine was associated with getting GBS. Several studies have been done to evaluate if other flu vaccines since 1976 were associated with GBS. Only one of the studies showed an association. That study suggested that one person out of 1 million vaccinated persons may be at risk of GBS associated with the vaccine.

For more information on influenza and the influenza vaccine, visit [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu) or call 1-800-CDC-INFO.

Worksite flu vaccine clinics are scheduled for October and November at many MDOC facilities.



## MDOC on Parade



*Keep the "Parade" going with all of the great stories of employee happenings, like the ones below:*

### Pugsley Care Packages

Staff at Pugsley Correctional Facility organized a drive to collect items to send to those who are serving in the military. The original plan was to send care packages to the sons and daughters of staff members, but it soon expanded to include families in the communities surrounding the facility.

Thanks to the generosity of Pugsley staff through donations of cash and goods, they were able to send 15 large boxes to soldiers overseas. The collection process was held through the month of July and the packages were sent out the first of August. Cards of thanks were signed by staff and included in each package. A special thanks goes out to the Pugsley Employee Club for picking up the cost to cover postage.



### Chippewa/Straits Chili Cookoff

Staff representing Chippewa/Straits Correctional Facilities recently participated in the local 2007 Chili Cookoff for United Way and received 2nd place for their "Hot Chili" entry. Over 30 local organizations and groups submitted entries in several categories.



Shown here (l.-r.) in the back row are ARUS Art Derry, RUO Rob Brehm, Warehouse Supervisor Frank Pingatore and RUO Phil Irwin. Business Office Secretary Robin Myers is in the center, and the front row consists of ARUS Terri Corey-Spiker and Accounting Assistant Dawn Brown.



## MDOC on Parade



### How Does Your Garden Grow?

Due to tightening budget strings, Camp Ottawa (COT) is no longer able to provide funds to maintain their garden project. Consequently, the Prisoner Benefit Fund at Camp Ottawa pitched in and purchased all plants, seeds, fertilizer, etc. to keep the program running this year. In light of this, the garden project has expanded quite a bit. The camp was able to create six additional prisoner jobs to help maintain the gardens.

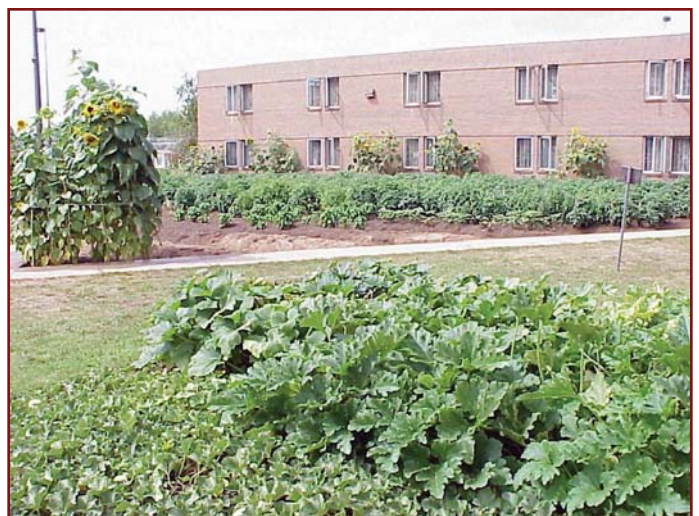
Besides the wide variety of flowers and plants grown around the facility, the gardens also produce many vegetables including squash (winter and summer varieties), zucchini, potatoes, beans, tomatoes, green peppers, pumpkins, broccoli, onions, garlic, cucumbers, melons, and sunflowers. So far this year, COT has donated 736 pounds of produce to various charities and non-profit organizations such as the local senior citizens center and St. Vincent DePaul organization.

It is anticipated that by the end of this harvest season over one ton of produce will be donated to local charities and non-profit organizations. COT has utilized approximately 1,919 pounds of fresh produce so far this year in their own food service operation.

Not only does the garden project provide the prisoners at COT something to focus their attention on, it also provides them an opportunity to give back to the community.

"Our grounds look exceptional. The credit must go to the staff, prisoner workers and the Prisoner Benefit Fund here at Camp Ottawa for such a successful garden project this year," stated ADW Ken Tribley.

The garden project is coordinated with the help of staff members RUM Keith Hamel and Maintenance Mechanic Mike Hemeleski. Camp Ottawa is under the jurisdiction of the Ojibway Correctional Facility.





## MDOC on Parade



### Central Office Chili Cookoff

Central Office held a Chili Cookoff to raise money for the Michigan Harvest Gathering. Six employees whipped up entries, and for a small fee staff members got to taste each and vote for their favorites.

Everyone also had the opportunity to purchase casual day buttons, which cost \$5 and earned the buyer 5 casual Wednesdays.

When the chili sauce had cooled and the cornbread was all gone, \$227 had been collected for charity and the cookoff winners emerged:

First place honors and a \$20 gift certificate to Famous Taco went to Ken Bush for his venison chili creation, called "The Fender Makes it Tender." Second place went to Christine Navarro for her "White Hot Chili Chickadee," which earned her a \$10 gift certificate to Great Harvest Bread Company.



There was a tie for third place between Amy McKean's "Spicy Little Number" and Sandy Feldpausch's "Blazin' Saddles Chili." McKean received a \$10 gift certificate to Great Harvest Bread Company, while Feldpausch received one from Jalapeno's restaurant. Thanks to all cooks and participants!



Shown enjoying their chili samples are (l.-r.): Denise Matowski, Chris Trudell, Jeanine Cowles, and Leo Lalonde.

Also, Navarro gets an "A" for the presentation of her "White Hot Chili Chickadee," served with fresh jalapeno slices, Monterey Jack cheese and cornbread (left).